

Remarks

Claims 1-99 are cancelled and new claims 100-116 are added leaving claims 100-116 pending in the application. New claims 100-116 do not constitute new matter as they are supported by the originally filed specification at, for example, pages 5-16.

New claims 100-116 are allowable for at least the reason the cited references neither teach nor suggest a sample inlet tube in fluid communication with an electrically conductive conduit with the first end of the conduit configured to receive a substantially unionized sample from the tube, and an electrically conductive reference device positioned proximate the second end of the conduit, the reference device and conduit being configured to ionize at least a portion of the sample within the ionization area.

Claims 100-116 are believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Applicant requests allowance of these claims in Examiner's next action.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/7/05

By: Alan D. Kirsch
Alan D. Kirsch
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 33,720
P.O. Box 1625
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415-3899
(208) 526-1371